

5.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-5 (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 11 wherein the ~~steek~~ single bearing unit is a thrust ball bearing.

7. (currently amended) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 12 wherein the ~~steek~~ single bearing unit is a thrust ball bearing.

8. (withdrawn) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 13 wherein the ~~steek~~ bearing is a thrust ball bearing.

9. (currently amended) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 14 wherein the ~~steek~~ single bearing unit is a thrust ball bearing.

10. (currently amended) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 15 wherein the ~~steek~~ single bearing unit is a thrust ball bearing.

11. (currently amended) A swivel caster having a top mounting member for attachment to the bottom of a vehicle; a bottom caster member having a caster wheel support extending downwardly therefrom with a caster wheel at the free end thereof; the bottom member having an integral cylindrical stub shaft extending toward the top member, the top member having a cylindrical bore for receiving the free end of the stub shaft and a cylindrical counterbore concentric about the bore; a first bearing means comprising a ~~steek~~ single bearing unit press fit mounted in one of the bore and the counterbore about the stub shaft, the first bearing means mounted to transfer load from the top member to the bottom member; and a second bearing means comprising a ring of loose balls mounted in an annular raceway, half of the raceway formed in the cylindrical wall defining the other of the bore and the counterbore, the second bearing means permitting rotation of the bottom member relative to the top member and retaining the stub shaft in the ~~circular~~ cylindrical bore to connect the top and bottom members together.

..6

6.

12. (currently amended) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 11 wherein the counterbore in the top member forms an annular chamber about the stub shaft with the ~~stock~~ single bearing unit press fit mounted within the counterbore; the one part of the raceway formed in the cylindrical wall of the bore and the other part of the raceway formed in the cylindrical wall of stub shaft.

13. (withdrawn) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 11 wherein the bottom member has an upwardly extending cylindrical step, the stub shaft extending upwardly from the center of the step; the step mounted snugly in the counterbore, the bore forming an annular chamber about the stub shaft with the ~~stock~~ bearing press-fit mounted within the bore; the one part of the raceway formed in the circular wall of the counterbore and the other part of the raceway formed in the cylindrical wall of the step.

14. (currently amended) A swivel caster having a top mounting member for attachment to the bottom of a vehicle; a bottom caster member having a caster wheel support extending downwardly therefrom with a caster wheel at the free end thereof; the top member having an integral cylindrical stub shaft extending toward the bottom member; the bottom member having a cylindrical bore for receiving the free end of the stub shaft and a cylindrical counterbore concentric about the bore, a first bearing means comprising a ~~stock~~ single bearing unit press fit mounted in one of the bore and the counterbore about the stub shaft, the first bearing means mounted to transfer load from the top member to the bottom member; and a second bearing means comprising a ring of loose balls mounted in an annular raceway, part of the raceway formed in the cylindrical wall defining the other of the bore and the counterbore, the second bearing means permitting rotation of the bottom member relative to the top member and retaining the stub shaft in the cylindrical ~~circular~~ bore to connect the top and bottom members together.

15. (currently amended) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 14 wherein the counterbore in the bottom member forms an annular chamber about the stub shaft with the ~~stock~~ single bearing unit press fit

..7

7.

mounted within the counterbore; the one part of the raceway formed in the cylindrical wall of the bore and the other part of the raceway formed in the cylindrical wall of stub shaft.

16. (withdrawn) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 14 wherein the top member has a downwardly extending cylindrical step, the stub shaft extending downwardly from the center of the step; the step mounted snugly in the counterbore, the bore forming an annular chamber about the stub shaft with the stock bearing press-fit mounted within the bore; the one part of the raceway formed in the circular wall of the counterbore and the other part of the raceway formed in the cylindrical wall of the step.

17. (withdrawn) A swivel caster as claimed in claim 16 wherein the stock bearing is a thrust ball bearing.